<u>PATENTS</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

Peter EBNER ET AL. - 7 (RCE)

SERIAL NO.:

10/806,773

EXAMINER: S. KASTLER

FILED:

MARCH 23, 2004

GROUP: 1742

TITLE:

HOOD-TYPE ANNEALING FURNACE, ESPECIALLY FOR STEEL

STRIP AND WIRE BUNCHES

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION IN RCE

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the First Office Action dated December 12, 2006, Applicant responds as follows:

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.